Wimbledon Speedway

Gulf British League

Official Programme

Monday, April 19, 1976

7.45 p.m.

DONS v IPSWICH

WIMBLEDON SPEEDWAY

Meetings conducted by Wimbledon Stadium Limited, Plough Lane, London, SW17 OBL Telephone: 01-946 5361

Meetings staged under the direction of
John E. Cearns
Roger J. C. Cearns

Speedway Manager	**Cyril Maidment**
Clerk of the Course	**Jack Rackett**
Chief Pits Marshall	**Alf Carter**
Starting Marshall	**Frank Lawrence**
Machine Examiner	**Viv Harwood**
Announcer	**Ken Tozer**

Medical Officer
Dr. John Wall, MB, BS, D.Obst.R.C.O.G.

Merton Div. of St. John Amb. Brigade in attendance **Supt. F. G. Tucker, M.B.E.**

All meetings held under the Speedway Regulations of the Speedway Control Board

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Four lap race: 1,234 yards
Track Record: 59.6 secs:-
John Louis 27.5.75/Barry Thomas 19.6.75

Programme edited by **Philip Rising**, cover design by **Mick Hooker**, photographs by **Mike Patrick** and **Alf Weedon**, printed by **G.R.A. Property Trust Ltd.**

★

TONIGHT'S ATTRACTIVE encounter with current British League champions Ipswich comes in the midst of a hectic three meetings in eight days spell for us at Wimbledon. Easter printing schedules necessitated this programme being "put to bed" prior to the Spring Classic but maybe we will have a chance to offer congratulations to the victor this evening.

Ipswich, of course, are always welcome visitors to Plough Lane and their arrival ensures us of a tight and interesting match. This year there is the added spice

ED STANGELAND

£2.00

Wimbledon Scene

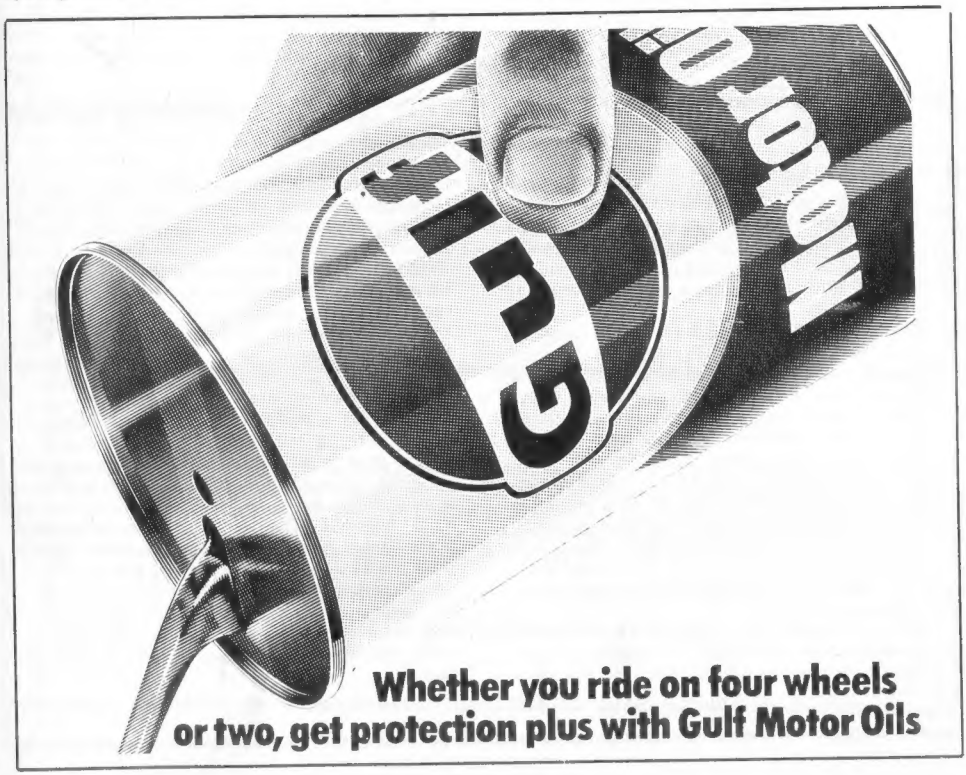
From the Manager's Desk

of Mick Hines riding against his old team and, though perhaps with mixed feelings, he will want to do especially well.

Mick has already proved a very good asset for us. He had an alarming crash at Newport last week but thankfully recovered. The boys did reasonably well at Somerton Park—never an easy track to go to—and poor Tommy Jansson had the misfortune to be excluded twice for breaking the tapes. I don't think I can ever remember him doing that before.

We have another meeting at Wimbledon on Thursday when we revert to the Spring Gold Cup for the visit of Newport. The Welsh side lost at Exeter on Monday and that could be a significant result when it comes to the final positions in the Western Section. I very much doubt whether any team will do what we did: defeat the Falcons twice.

Next week we meet Birmingham home and away in the first round of the Speedway Star Cup. The winners face an attractive second round tie against Belle Vue. Naturally we fancy our chances of getting through against the first division newcomers but any support provided—both here and at Perry Barr—will be much appreciated.



Meet the visitors

IPSWICH

With acknowledgement to Ivan Mauger's Speedway Extravaganza and RON HOARE

Foxhall Heath, Ipswich, Suffolk.
Track opened: 1951
Team formed for league racing: 1952
Track measurement: 328 yards
Track record: 62.0 secs. John Louis
Club colours: Blue and White with Black Witch
Nickname: The Witches
Team manager: Ron Bagley
Captain: John Louis
Highest points scorer last season: John Louis 398 pts.
Highest average last season: John Louis 10.58

HONOURS

League Champions: 1975
Speedway Star Cup: Runners-up 1974.

Welcome to the League Champions who gained their very first major success when they held off Belle Vue in a tight finish to the campaign last term. The Witches were first granted senior league status in 1957 but after a few years of ups and downs regained their place in the top division in 1972 since when under the leadership of their home spun star John Louis they have gone from strength to strength culminating in last season's triumph. Although they have lost Mick Hines (transferred to the Dons) from last year's team, they still retain a very solid look and it will take a pretty useful outfit to topple them from their present exalted position.

THE RIDERS

JOHN LOUIS (14.6.41): Only made his speedway debut in 1969—after a successful career as a trials rider—yet is now the current British Champion. Third in last year's World Final, his third appearance in the last sixteen. Ipswich born, he led them to the Championship last year.

BILLY SANDERS (9.9.55): Has already qualified for the Inter-Continental Final of this year's World Championship. Comes from Sydney and a former amateur boxer. First rode at the Liverpool Raceway when only 15. Joined Ipswich in 1972 and is considered a "home-grown" product.

TONY DAVEY (15.8.51): Also from Suffolk, he started racing at Rye House in 1970. But his only team has been Ipswich, with whom he made his public debut in a second half race in 1970. Valuable third heat leader who has won full English international honours.

MIKE LANHAM (2.8.51): Hails from Ipswich, has competed in scrambles and moto-cross events. First rode at the Rye House training school in 1971. Rode for Birmingham in 1972 and 1973, and Peterborough in 1974. Came sixth in the 1974 Second Division Riders Championship. Full time with Ipswich last year.

TREVOR JONES (13.10.47): Born Ipswich, former cycle speedway exponent. Turned to speedway at the King's Lynn training school in 71. Canterbury 72-74, Ipswich 73-75. Capped by England at second division level.

DAVE GOODERHAM (6.1.53): Also Ipswich born, regular in the Ipswich side this year as a replacement for Mick Hines. Spent part of the winter racing in South Africa. Had his second half debut at Ipswich in 1972, rode for Canterbury 73-75 and a spell with Exeter in 1974.

TED HOWGEGO (14.1.51): Yet another from Ipswich, and a rider in fine form just now. Had his second half debut at Boston in 1971 after riding at the Rye House school the year before. Has ridden for West Ham and Peterborough while with Ipswich from 1971. Member of the championship side last season.

'What a start!'

by Darrell Mason

PHEW! What a start! That is the verdict of all the team to the tough beginning they have encountered . . . Reading, Exeter (home and away), Newport, Belle Vue and now tonight the League Champions, Ipswich led by England star John "Tiger" Louis.

Chances are that most of you would pick one of the five sides I've mentioned as your choice to be the 1976 League Champions with maybe some of you giving the Ole Olsen-inspired Coventry Bees or even ourselves a chance!

"They don't come much tougher do they?" said Cyril "but to me, the bigger they are, the harder they will fall and we don't fear anyone!"

Strong words by our manager but be honest with yourselves for a moment, how many of you honestly thought that we would win at Exeter? Not many, if any I bet, but win the team did and the looks on their faces afterwards told all.

We have not had a lot to cheer about in recent years, but now we are confident of doing great things and it shows out there on the track.

Some people will say that we were beaten out of sight on our opening night against the Racers, a 46-32 home defeat would look bad to the non-attenders, but those present knew that evening when they saw our eventual line-up that we were about as weak as a used tea-bag! Without two heat-leaders it was asking for a miracle to expect us to win that one.

Try asking the team now how they feel about meeting the Racers again and they'll tell you they fear no one!

Tommy is proving a fine captain and the rest of the side is responding to his leadership, which can only be to our good.

On Thursday, Newport come avisiting, but they can hardly feel confident of victory and on Friday they face Exeter at Somerton Park in a match they must win if they are to keep on our heels in the Spring Gold Cup.

The return match between the Falcons and the 'Ports should have been next Monday at the County Ground, whilst we are at Birmingham giving the Brummies a hiding in the Speedway Star Cup, but it has been put back to a later date, but when ever the new date is, I cannot see Ivan and Co. allowing their rivals a victory, which makes our victory at Exeter three weeks ago so important.

But back to this evening's British League clash. Only a fool would dare to predict who will eventually take the number one spot with any certainty, but Ipswich, under their Promoter John Berry, are in no mood to let go of the title they won last October and they will be gunning for a victory over us here, but the Dons too have a couple of scores to settle with the Witches and, with Mick particularly keen to hang one over his old team mates, I don't see Tommy and the boys being in a charitable mood, but not without a fight.

Victory tonight, and you fans can play an important part in achieving just that by shouting yourselves hoarse, will be just the thing to get the team loosened up for Thursday's cup crunch with Newport.

Motor sports events are dangerous and all persons attending this meeting do so entirely at their own risk. It is a condition of admission that all persons having any connection with the promotion and/or organisation and/or conduct of the meeting including the owners and lessees of the stadium and the owners and drivers of the vehicles and passengers in the vehicles are absolved from all liability arising out of accidents causing damages or personal injury to spectators or ticket holders.

UNAUTHORISED PHOTOGRAPHY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

UNAUTHORISED VENDORS WILL BE PROSECUTED.

WIMBLEDON v. IPSWICH

GULF BRITISH LEAGUE

Referee: A. E. Humphreys

Timekeeper: Mr. A. Keen

WIMBLEDON
"DONS"

COLOURS
RED WITH YELLOW STAR

TEAM MANAGER
CYRIL MAIDMENT

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	T
1. Tommy Jansson (C)	2	3	3	3	1			12
2. Barry Crowson	1	0	3	0				4
3.								
4. Mick Hines	2	2	1	1	2			8
5. Ed Stangeland	0	1	2	0	1			4
6. Larry Ross	3	1	0					4
7. Roger Johns	/	1	1	0				2
8.								
TOTAL								

IPSWICH
"WITCHES"

COLOURS
BLUE AND WHITE WITH BLACK WITCH

TEAM MANAGER
RON BAGLEY

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	T
1. John Louis (C)	3	3	3	3				12
2. Trevor Jones	0	0						
3. Tony Davey	2	2	3	3				10
4. Mike Lanham	1	2	1	2				6
5. Billy Sanders	3	3	2	/				8
6. Ted Howgego	1	1	2					4
7. Dave Gooderham	2	0	0	2				4
8.								
TOTAL								

Riders are identified by Helmet Colours: Home Team Red & Blue: Visitors White & Yellow and Black
4 Laps Clutch Start Match decided on points: 1st 3pts; 2nd 2pts; 3rd 1pt.

Heat	RIDER	Substitute or Remarks	Helmet Colour	Rider's Points	Home Team Points	Visitors Team Points	Progressive TOTAL Home	Progressive TOTAL Visitors
1	1 T. Jansson	2	Red	2	3	3	3	3
61.4	2 B. Crowson	3	Blue	1				
	1 J. Louis	1	White	3				
Time	2 T. Jones		Y & B	0				
2	6 L. Ross		Red	1	3	3	6	6
63.5	7 R. Johns		Blue	/				
	6 T. Howgego		White	3				
Time	7 D. Gooderham		Y & B	2				
3	5 E. Stangeland		Red	0	2	4	8	10
63.1	4 M. Hines		Blue	2				
	5 B. Sanders		White	1				
Time	4 M. Lanham		Y & B	3				
4	3 JANSSON		Red	1	4	2	12	12
62.1	6 L. Ross		Blue	3				
	3 T. Davey		White	2				
Time	7 D. Gooderham		Y & B	0				

Heat		RIDER	Substitute or Remarks	Helmet Colour	Rider's Points	Home Team Points	Visitors Team Points	Progressive TOTAL Home	Progressive TOTAL Visitors
5	5	E. Stangeland		Red	3	3	3	15	15
62.2	4	M. Hines		Blue	2				
	1	J. Louis		White	1				
Time	2	T. Jones		Y & B	0				
6	1	T. Jansson		Red	1	3	3	18	18
62.6	2	B. Crowson		Blue	3				
	3	T. Davey		White	2				
Time	6	T. Howgego		Y & B	3				
7	3	M. HINES		Red	3	1	5	19	23
63.1	6	L. Ross		Blue	0				
	5	B. Sanders		White	1				
Time	4	M. Lanham		Y & B	2				
8	2	B. Crowson		Red	1	4	2	23	25
64.3	7	R. Johns		Blue	3				
	2	~~T. Jones~~	HOWGEGO	White	2				
Time	7	D. Gooderham		Y & B	0				
9	5	E. Stangeland		Red	2	3	3	26	28
63.4	4	M. Hines		Blue	3				
	3	T. Davey		White	1				
Time	6	T. Howgego		Y & B	0				
10	1	T. Jansson		Red	1	3	3	29	31
62.2	2	B. Crowson		Blue	0				
	5	B. Sanders		White	2				
Time	4	M. Lanham		Y & B	3				
11	3	STAN RELAND		Red	0	1	5	30	36
64.4	7	R. Johns		Blue	3				
	1	J. Louis		White	1				
Time	2	~~T. Jones~~	GOODERHAM	Y & B	2				
12	1	T. Jansson		Red	3	3	3	33	39
63.2	4	M. Hines		Blue	2				
	3	T. Davey		White	1				
Time	5	B. Sanders		Y & B	—				
13	3	R. JOHNS		Red	0	1	5	34	44
63.2	5	E. Stangeland		Blue	3				
	1	J. Louis		White	1				
Time	4	M. Lanham		Y & B	2				

15 MINUTES INTERVAL WEATHER PERMITTING

The Management reserves the right of admission and the right to alter or abandon the programme. Should it be necessary, through any cause, to abandon the meeting prior to the completion of the sixth race, tickets giving free admission to a subsequent meeting will be issued. In no circumstances will any money be refunded.

BETTING IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED AT ALL SPEEDWAY MEETINGS

This meeting is being recorded on CASSETTE BY

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DONS JUNIORS	1	2	T	RYE HOUSE JUNIORS	1	2	T
~~Lee Edmonds~~ CANNING	0	1		Bobby Garrod	3		
Brendan Shilleto	2			Chris Mackett	1	2	
Ian Williams	3			Keith Chapman	0		
TOTAL				TOTAL			

Race	RIDER	Substitute	Helmet Colour	Finish Position	Remarks
	RESERVES QUALIFIER				
14	Larry Ross		Red	1	
63.8	Roger Johns		Blue	2	
Time	Ted Howgego		White	3	
	Dave Gooderham		Y & B	0	
	STADIUM SCRATCH RACE–HEAT ONE				
15	Tommy Jansson	63.0	Red	2	
62.4	HOWGEGO		Blue	0	
Time	John Louis		White	1	
	Mike Lanham		Y & B	3	
	DONS JUNIORS versus RYE HOUSE JUNIORS–HEAT ONE				
16	~~Lee Edmonds~~ CANNING		Red	0	
66.2	Brendan Shilleto		Blue	2	
Time	Bobby Garrod		White	1	
	Chris Mackett		Y & B	3	
	STADIUM SCRATCH RACE–HEAT TWO				
17	Mick Hines		Red	3	
63.1	Barry Crowson	64.1	Blue	2	
Time	Tony Davey		White	1	
	Winner of race 14 ROSS		Y & B	0	
	DONS JUNIORS versus RYE HOUSE JUNIORS–HEAT TWO				
18	~~Lee Edmonds~~ CANNING		Red	3	
66.8	Ian Williams		Blue	1	
Time	Chris Mackett		White	2	
	Keith Chapman		Y & B	0	
	STADIUM SCRATCH RACE–HEAT THREE				
19	Ed Stangeland		Red	1	
63.6	~~Billy Sanders~~ GOODRHAM		Blue	2	
Time	Trevor Jones		White		
	Second in race 14 JONES		Y & B	3	
	DONS JUNIORS versus RYE HOUSE JUNIORS–HEAT THREE				
20	Ian Williams		Red		
	Brendan Shilleto		Blue		
Time	Bobby Garrod		White		
	Keith Chapman		Y & B		
	STADIUM SCRATCH RACE–FINAL				
21	Winner of race 15	LOUIS	Red		
	Winner of race 17	DAVEY	Blue		
Time	Winner of race 19	STANGELAND	White		
	Fastest second	JONES	Y & B		

Where Are They Now?

By RON HOARE

NO ONE who followed the Dons in the early post-war years will ever forget Norman Parker, one of the finest riders of his time and arguably the greatest captain Wimbledon has ever had.

Norman was responsible for the swift development of many of the younger riders and after introducing Ronnie Moore to this country did a tremendous coaching job on the young Tasmanian who graduated from novice to star rider in a matter of months.

In a international career curtailed by injuries and misfortune. Norman was capped twenty times for England but in the twilight of his riding days and soon after the Dons set off on their great run which lasted from 1953 to 1962, he again suffered severe injuries in a track crash and although he managed to complete the last few weeks of that season, further racing was out of the question. His last ride for the Dons was a typical example of the man's great spirit. In a vital 17th heat he hung on, in spite of considerable pain, to win the race and clinch the National Trophy for his team.

After a spell as Manager of Swindon, Norman quit the speedway scene and today lives a comparatively quiet life in a village near Towcester and is licensee of a nearby hostelry. Essentially a family man he takes a great interest in the Scrambling exploits of his young son and enjoys an occasional game of golf, but the pub of course takes up a great deal of his time.

However, he keeps in regular contact with elder brother Jack with whom he formed what was probably the most famous brothers partnership in the history of the Sport. Certainly as long as there is speedway at Wimbledon, the name of Norman Parker will be remembered with great affection.

Tommy Jansson leading John Louis during a World Champions' troupe meeting in Australia.

PLOUGH LANE

Supporters Club News

On behalf of the Committee
ALAN GRAHAM (SECRETARY)

DOES YOUR BRAIN HURT? If so, give it some exercise by answering the twelve questions listed below and win yourself a season ticket to Wimbledon Speedway worth over £30.

Hidden in the terrible puns dreamed up by the otherwise intelligent committee member Ken Thomas, are thirteen speedway riders, all attached to British League tracks. Each question gives at least two clues to the riders' identities.

Non-members and members alike may enter the competition, but in event of a draw, the prize will be awarded to a member of the supporters club. The competition will close on Friday 30th April. Hand your answers with your name and address to any of our kiosks or post them (second class) to Alan Graham (Secretary), 16 Clarkes Avenue, Worcester Park, Surrey.

★

1. Hot stuff round Cradley?
2. Capital man at Monmore Green?
3. An evasive Hawk?
4. Two Witches beneath the sea?
5. Kiwi who regularly pegs points?
6. Beware this Lion in March?
7. Rubber Ace?
8. 57 ways to ride Wimbledon?
9. An extra benefit at Dudley Wood?
10. Regularly engaged and disengaged at Wood Lane?
11. Water closet for royalty in the west?
12. Officially not allowed at Saddlebow Road or anywhere else?

Hackney v. 1st Division Speedway—Poland	Birmingham v. Wimbledon (S.S.Cup)
THIS FRIDAY	*NEXT MONDAY*
Coach leaves Stadium 6.30 p.m.	Coach leaves Stadium 3.30 p.m.
FARE: 75p (29) ; 65p (41) ; 55p (53)	FARE: £1.95 (29) ; £1.70 (41) ; £1.45 (53)
Children & O.A.P. 45p	Children & O.A.P. £1.20

fixtures

Subject to Alteration

MARCH

Thu	**18**	**Reading (Ch)**	L32–46
Wed	24	White City (Ch)	L38–40
Thu	**25**	**Poole (SGC)**	W46–32
Mon	29	Exeter (SGC)	W41–37

APRIL

Thu	**1**	**Exeter (SGC)**	W41–36
Thu	**8**	**Belle Vue (Gulf BL)**	L35–43
Fri	9	Newport (SGC)	L31–47
Wed	14	Poole (SGC)	
Thu	**15**	**Daily Express Spring Classic (T.V.)**	
BHM	**19**	**Ipswich (Gulf BL)**	
Thu	**22**	**Newport (SGC)**	
Mon	26	Birmingham (KOC)	
Wed	28	Hull (Gulf BL)	
Thu	**29**	**Birmingham (KOC)**	

MAY

Thu	**6**	**Halifax (Gulf BL)**
Sat	8	Coventry (Gulf BL)
Thu	**13**	**Marlboro Southern (QR)**
Sat	15	Halifax (Gulf BL)
Thu	**20**	**No Home Meeting**
Thu	20	Sheffield (Gulf BL)
Tue	25	Leicester (Gulf BL)
Thu	**27**	**Swindon (Gulf BL)**
BHM	**31**	**Embassy Internationale (T.V.)**

JUNE

Thu	**3**	**Leicester (Gulf BL)**
Sat	5	Kings Lynn (Gulf BL)
Thu	**10**	**Open**
Thu	**17**	**Birmingham (Gulf BL)**
Sat	19	Belle Vue or B'ham (KOC)
Thu	**24**	**Resv. Belle Vue (KOC)**
Mon	28	Reading

JULY

Thu	**1**	**Cradley United (Gulf BL)**
Thu	**8**	**Golden Wonder 4-Team Tournament**
Thu	**15**	**Grand Prix (QR)**
Sat	17	Ipswich (Gulf BL)
Thu	**22**	**Coventry (Gulf BL)**
Thu	**29**	**Wolverhampton (Gulf BL)**
Fri	30	Hackney (Gulf BL)

AUGUST

Thu	**5**	**Reserved (KOC)**
Thu	**12**	**Kings Lynn (Gulf BL)**
Wed	18	White City (Gulf BL)
Thu	**19**	**Hull (Gulf BL)**
Fri	20	Wolverhampton (Gulf BL)
Thu	**26**	**Open**
Sat	28	Belle Vue (Gulf BL)
BHM	**30**	**Sheffield (Gulf BL)**

SEPTEMBER

Thu	**2**	**Hackney (Gulf BL)**
Sat	4	Swindon (Gulf BL)
Thu	**9**	**Poole (Gulf BL)**
Sat	11	Cradley United (Gulf BL)
Thu	**16**	**Newport (Gulf BL)**
Thu	**23**	**Reading (Gulf BL)**
Wed	29	Poole (Gulf BL)
Thu	**30**	**Open**

OCTOBER

Sat	**2**	**New National League Riders' Championship**
Mon	4	Birmingham (Gulf BL)
Thu	**7**	**White City (Gulf BL)**
Fri	8	Newport (Gulf BL)
Thu	**14**	**Exeter (Gulf BL)**
Mon	18	Exeter (Gulf BL)
Thu	**21**	**Open**
Thu	**28**	**Favre-Leuba Laurels**

(Home Meetings in bold)

Forthcoming Attraction

★

Thursday, April 22 at 7.45 p.m.

DONS vs. NEWPORT (Spring Gold Cup)

★

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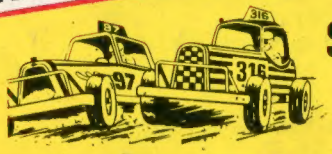

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